



BOROUGH OF FLINT.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for
1963.

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
RECEIVED

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A.

BOROUGH OF FLINT.

Mayor 1963/64

Alderman J.R.S. Lloyd.

Chairman, Health Committee 1963/64.

Councillor K. Pierce.

Officers : R. Scott, Barrister at Law.

Medical Officer of Health : Dr. D.J. Fraser M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Office - Town Hall, Mold. Tel. Mold 176

Home Tel. Mold. 316.

Public Health Inspector: L. Graham, M.A.P.H.I.

Borough Surveyor & Engineer: C.K. Drake, M.I. Mun.E., A.M.Inst. H.E.,

Housing Manager: S.B. George, A.I.Hsg., M.R.S.H.

Borough Treasurer: A.H. Thorpe, F.I.M.T.A., F.R.V.A.,

Qualifications and duties of senior Public Health Officers (Circular 1/54).

1. Medical Officer of Health: (a) M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Duties:- As laid down in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959. District Medical Officer of Health (Holywell R.D.C., Holywell U.D.C., Mold U.D.C.) Assistant County Medical Officer.

2. Public Health Inspector: (a) Certificate of the R.S.I., and S.I.E.J.B.

(b) Certificate as Inspector of Meat and other foods of the R.S.I.

Duties:- As laid down in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, including responsibility for Refuse Collection and Disposal and Cesspool Emptying.

BOROUGH OF FLINT.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Borough Council of Flint.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the health of the Borough for the year 1963. The mid-year population was estimated 13,950. Population 1961 Census - 13, 690

The live-births numbered 245 compared with 243 in 1962. The birth rate was close to that for England and Wales as a whole. There were 6 still-births. During the year 6 infants under a year old died, compared with 11 in 1962, 3 in 1961, 3 in 1960, 10 in 1959, 5 in 1958 and 7 in 1957. Three were under a week old.

Deaths of residents totalled 146 (134 in 1962) giving a slight rise in the death-rate, which was lower than that for the country as a whole. Of the total deaths, 66 were due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, and 26 to cancer of one type or another. There were no deaths associated with pregnancy or childbirth. Deaths due to infectious or notifiable diseases include 7 due to Pneumonia and 5 to Bronchitis. Accidents accounted for 8 deaths, 2 being motor vehicle accidents.

There were 2 new cases of Tuberculosis, During the year there were 85 notifications of infectious and notifiable diseases (excluding Tuberculosis). There were no cases of dysentery notified. There were no cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever or Food Poisoning. Measles accounted for 71 of the 85 notifications and Whooping Cough for 12.

In addition to the day to day work of the Health Department, considerable progress was made with the carrying out of the Council's Slum Clearance programme. Other work included the immunization of children against Tuberculosis by means of B.C.G. vaccination, and against Whooping cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus. Immunization of children and young adults against Poliomyelitis was continued.

Sections C.D and E. concerning water supplies, sewerage, inspections of factories, housing and food and drugs were written by your Public Health Inspector, Mr. L. Graham to whom I am indebted for his co-operation and efficiency.

In conclusion I wish to thank all the Officers of the Council for their ready help at all times throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.J. Fraser.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Social Conditions, including Vital Statistics.

Area:- 6,240 statutory acres.

Population:- (1961 Census) : 13,690. Registrar General's Estimate at mid-year 1963: 13,950.

Number of Inhabitated Houses: 4,298

Average Number of persons per house: 3.22

Population Density: 2.234 persons per statutory Acre.

Rateable Value:- £191,032 Product of Penny Rate: £755

TABLE I

Vital Statistics 1963.

<u>Population:-</u>	Registrar General's Estimate at Mid-Year:	13,950
<u>Live Births:</u>		245
Live Birth rate per 1000 population:		17.56
Illegitimate live births % of total live births		2.85
Still-births		.6
Still-births Rate per 1000 live and still-births		23.90
Total live and still-births:		251
Infant deaths:		6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live-births (total)		24.49
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live-births (legitimate)		25.21
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live-births (illegitimate)		Nil.
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) per 1000 total live-births:		20.40
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) per 1000 total live-births:		12.24
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths under 1 week combined) per 1000 total live and still-births:		36.32
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)		
Number of deaths:		Nil.
Rate per 1000 total live and still-births:		Nil.
Deaths (from all causes)		146

TABLE II

LIVE BIRTHS - 1963.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Legitimate	112	126	238
Illegitimate	3	4	7
TOTAL :	115	130	245

(1961 total : 259 births 1962 total : 243 births).

Live-birth rate per 1000 population: 1962 - 17.62; 1963 - 17.56

England and Wales: Live-birth rate per 1000 population; (provisional)
1963 - 18.2.

These figures show that there were 2 births more than in 1962. The birth-rate is near the rate for England and Wales as a whole. The Registrar General's "comparability factor" of 1.03 leaves the rate at 18.08 per 1000 population. There were 12 fewer boys and 14 more girls born.

TABLE III

STILL-BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
TOTAL :	4	2	6

(1960 total : 4. 1961 total : 3. 1962 total 2).

Still-birth rate per 1000 live and still-births: 1963 - 23.90

Still-birth rate per 1000 population: 1963 - 0.43

England and Wales: Still-birth rate per 1000 live and still-births;
1963 - 17.2.

The still-birth rate for the Borough shows a rise. There were 6 still-births in 1963 compared with 2 in 1962, 3 in 1961, 4 in 1960 and 11 in 1959

TABLE IV

DEATH (GENERAL) RATE:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
	96	50	146
All ages (all causes).			
(1960 total - 129; 1961 total - 145; 1962 total - 134)			
Death rate per 1000 population; 1956 - 10.27; 1957 - 10.47; 1958 - 11.07; 1959 - 9.16; 1960 - 9.03; 1961 - 10.59; 1962 - 9.71; 1963 - 10.46.			
England and Wales: Death rate per 1000 population; 1956 - 11.7; 1957 - 11.5; 1958 - 11.7; 1959 - 11.6; 1960 - 11.5; 1961 - 12.0; 1962 - 11.9; 1963 - 12.2.			

The general death rate shows a rise compared with the previous year. There has been a rise in the rate for England and Wales. There were 12 more deaths in the Borough than in 1962. This crude death rate is lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

DEATH (GENERAL) ANALYSIS.

Examination of this Table shows that there were 66 deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, and 26 deaths from cancer of all sites. Corresponding figures for the previous year are 61 and 17 respectively. There were no deaths from tuberculosis. Deaths from pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases totalled 14 (16 in 1962). There were 7 deaths from lung cancer, compared with 4 in 1962; 5 in 1961; 3 in 1960; 6 in 1959; 5 in 1958; 6 in 1957; 7 in 1956, 3 in 1955; 1 in 1954 and 11 in 1953. There were 2 deaths due to motor accidents, and 6 were due to other accidents.

There were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, measles. There were no deaths from pregnancy, childbirth or abortion. One death was due to meningitis.

<u>Cause of Death.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 population.</u>
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	3	2	5	0.35
- Lung and Bronchus	7	0	7	0.50
- Breast	-	1	1	0.07
- Uterus	-	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic Neoplasms	11	2	13	0.93
Vascular Lesion of Nervous System	6	11	17	1.21
Coronary Disease - Angina	26	10	36	2.58
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	-	1	0.07
Other heart disease	4	5	9	0.64
Other circulatory Disease	1	2	3	0.21
Pneumonia	4	3	7	0.50
Bronchitis	4	1	5	0.35
Influenza	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1	0.07
Other defined and ill defined diseases	9	9	18	1.29
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2	0.14
Diabetes	1	-	1	0.07
Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	1	-	1	0.07

Cause of Death.

	M.	F.	TOTAL.	Rate per 1000 Population.
All other Accidents	6	-	6	0.43
Suicide	-	-	-	-
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	2	4	0.28
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	-	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-	1	0.07
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	-	2	0.14
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3	0.21
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia Prostate	1	-	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	1	1	2	0.1
TOTAL :	96	50	146	

TABLE V.DEATHS (MATERNAL) :

Causes associated with pregnancy and childbirth. There were no deaths attributable to these causes in 1963, as in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962, compared with 1 in 1955.

TABLE VIDEATHS (INFANTILE):

Infants under one year old.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Legitimate.	5	1	6
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
TOTAL :	5	1	6

(1962 - 11; 1961 - 3; 1960 - 3; 1959 - 10; 1958 - 5)

Infantile Death Rate of Legitimate babies per 1000 legitimate births;
1954 - 27.23; 1955 - 21.18; 1956 - 51.94; 1957 - 29.53; 1958 - 15.38;
1959 - 36.19; 1960 - 11.32; 1961 - 11.85; 1962 - 46.80; 1963 - 25.21.

Infantile Death Rate of illegitimate babies per 1000 illegitimate babies:
1954 - Nil; 1955 - Nil; 1956 - 71.42; 1957 - Nil; 1958 - 71.42; 1959 - 200;
1960 - Nil; 1961 - Nil; 1962 - Nil; 1963 - Nil.

Infantile Death Rate per 1000 births (legitimate and illegitimate):
1954 - 26.02; 1955 - 20.32; 1956 - 53.06; 1957 - 29.04; 1958 - 18.24;
1959 - 43.41; 1960 - 11.19; 1961 - 11.58; 1962 - 45.26; 1963 - 24.49.

England and Wales. Infantile death rate per 1000 live-births (legitimate and illegitimate): 1954 - 25.5; 1955 - 24.9; 1956 - 23.8; 1957 - 23.0; 1958 - 22.5; 1959 - 22.0; 1960 - 21.7; 1961 - 21.4; 1962 - 21.6; 1963 - 21.1.

The infantile death rate for England and Wales was 21.1 per 1000 live-births. There were no deaths among illegitimate babies under one year old. Of the 6 infants who died, 3 were under a week old.

SECTION B.

Health Services for the Borough provided
by other authorities.

Ambulance Facilities:- Provided by the County Council. An ambulance is available in Flint on a 24 hour service. Transport for all cases is provided by the Ambulance Department, which is administered by the County Health Department.

Home Nursing	}	Service provided by County Council.
Home Help		
Midwifery in the Home		
Health Visiting		
Tuberculosis Health Visiting		

Vaccination: By arrangement with the Local General Medical Practitioners or by the Medical Officer on request.

Treatment Clinics and Centres: The following Table gives particulars of the centre and Clinics at which facilities for consultation and/or treatment are available to the residents of the Borough.

CLINICS.	Situation.	Dates and Times of opening.
<u>Chest Clinics:</u> (Provided by the Regional Hospital Board).	Cottage Hospital, Holywell, Oaklands, Queensferry and at the Chest Clinic, Wrexham.	Every Tuesday 10.30.a.m. Every Wednesday 10.a.m.
<u>Ante-Natal:</u> (Provided by the County Council)	The Clinic Boro' Grove, Flint. The Clinic, Bagillt (and at Greenfield Clinic).	Tuesday afternoons. 1st. & 3rd. Thursdays 1.30.p.m. to 4.30.p.m.

CLINICS.	Situation.	Dates and Times of opening.
<u>Ophthalmic Clinics:</u>		
(Provided by the County Council).	The Clinic, Holywell	2nd. & 4th. Tuesday of the month by appointment.
	New Clinic, Shotton.	1st. & 3rd. Mondays of the month by appointment.
<u>Infant Welfare and Post Natal:</u>		
(Provided by the County Council).	The Clinic, Boro' Grove, Flint.	Every Monday 1.30.p.m. - 4.30.p.m. Medical Officer attends 2nd. & 4th. Monday each month.
	The Clinic, Bagillt.	Thursdays 1.30 - 4.30.p
<u>Family Planning:</u>	The Clinic, Boro' Grove, Flint.	2nd. & 4th. Thursday afternoons.
<u>School Clinics:</u>		
(Provided by the County Council)	The Clinic, Boro' Grove, Flint.	Every Tuesday 9.30.a.m. - 12 noon.
<u>Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation:</u>		
(Provided by the County Council).	The Clinic, Boro' Grove, Flint.	First Friday each month 9.30.a.m. - 12 noon.
<u>Ante-Poliomyelitis Immunisation:</u>		

At all Clinics by appointment and by General Practitioners.

CLINICS.	Situation.	Dates and Times of opening.
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Orthopaedic:

(Provided by the
Regional Hospital
Board).

Holywell Cottage Hospital.	2nd. & 4th. Friday each month 10.a.m. - 12 noon.
New Clinic, Central School, Shotton.	1st & 3rd. Wed., each month, 10.a.m. - 12 noon.

B.C.G. Immunisation
against Tuberculosis:

(for children of 13 years) This is done in school, with the consent of the
parents.

Dental:

(Provided by the
County Council)

The Clinic, Boro' Grove, Flint.	Tuesday 9.30.a.m. and other days (by appointment).
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Other Clinic facilities include:-

Ultra-violet therapy	at Holywell and Mold.
Ear, Nose and Throat	" " " "
Speech Therapy	by arrangement.

Hospital Accommodation:-

This is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Facilities
are available at Flint Cottage Hospital. Residents are also admitted to
other hospitals in the Region.

SECTION C.

Public Health Services provided by the Borough Council.

Water Supply:- The quality of the mains water supply to the Borough continued to be of a high standard. The results of the samples taken for bacteriological examination were as follows:-

Number of samples taken from mains supply	89 (80)
Number of unsatisfactory results	17 (10)
Number of samples from other public and private supplies:	Nil (Nil).

The figures in brackets show the 1962 totals and are for comparison.

The unsatisfactory results were due mainly to the seasonal deterioration of the water in the Little London Reservoir.

Approximately 200 houses obtain their water supplies from stand-pipes. These are mainly in the Bagillt area of the Borough.

Sewerage & Sewage Disposal. In the Annual Reports for the years 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962 I referred to the plans of the main sewerage scheme for Flint being with the Ministry. This position was unaltered at the close of the year under review. The scheme provides for the sewerage of the Oakenholt area of the Borough and the installation of a sewage disposal works to deal with the main outfalls from Flint. The present arrangement whereby crude sewage is discharged into the river Dee is most unsatisfactory in my opinion, and the treatment plant is long overdue.

I refer above to the water supply to certain houses in Bagillt being standpipes. One of the reasons for this is the absence of sewers. It is reasonably simple to pipe water into houses but without sewers, practically impossible to get it out.

Refuse Collection and Disposal. In spite of the inherent difficulties of refuse collection a reasonable service was maintained throughout the year.

Fires on the tip became a major problem and it is becoming increasingly obvious that a machine working full time on the tip, levelling, compacting and covering the refuse is the only answer.

Nightsoil Collection and Disposal. This necessary evil ran smoothly during the year and a 7 day interval collection was maintained.

Salvage and Waste Paper: 41 tons 5 cwts. 1 qtr. of mixed waste paper was despatched to the Mills during the year. The price remained steady.

Inspection of Factories: At the close of the year the number of factories in the Borough was 31. 8 inspections were carried out. No contraventions were noticed.

Rodent Control: 82 infestations were reported and dealt with during the year compared with 86 during 1961. Routine treatments on Council owned property were carried out. These included almost continuous treatments on the sewage disposal works at Bagillt.

SECTION D.

Housing: At the end of the year a total of 1287 houses were owned by the Council of which 860 were built since 1947.

	at 31.12.62.	at 31.12.63.
Number of applicants	173	180
Number in rooms and overcrowded	89	81
Number in rooms not overcrowded		
Number in structurally separate dwellings including overcrowding	25	23
Number of applicants requiring old peoples dwellings	59	76

The above figures were supplied by the Council's Housing Manager.

Number of houses built:-	1962	1963
(a) Council	107	105
(b) Private	53	61

Slum Clearance. 8 Clearance Areas were declared during the year. Five of these were followed by Clearance Orders. Three were followed by Compulsory Purchase Orders. The total number of houses dealt with during the year was 122

SECTION E.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Food Hygiene Regulations:- At the end of 1963 the number of food premises in the Borough was as follows:-

Cafes, Canteens and Snack Bars	7
Grocery shops	41
Fish and Chip Shops	7
Sweet Shops	12
Greengrocers	5
Butchers	14
Fishmongers	1
Bakeries	3
Ice-cream Manufacturers	1
General	12
TOTAL :	103

Routine inspections of these premises continued during the year. Time did not allow sufficient attention to these premises. It is hoped that the establishment of inspectors is increased very soon. Until such time the position is far from satisfactory.

Ice-Cream: Manufacture of ice-cream was carried on in one factory during the year. The premises were inspected from time to time and each occasion was satisfactory.

Unsound Food:- The following food stuffs were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Tinned meat	82	0
" fruit	14	15
" vegetables	40	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
" puddings	5	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
" fish		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
" soup	3	9
 TOTAL :	 146	 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

Tinned milk - 75 $\frac{1}{4}$ pints equivalent.

Meat Inspection: One slaughterhouse was licensed during the year. Slaughtering is carried on only one day per week - Sunday.

The number of animals killed and the results of inspection are shown below.

	Cattle excluding <u>Cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Sheep or</u> <u>Calves.lambs.</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
Number killed	40	8	-	510	558
Number inspected	40	8	-	510	558
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ is condemned.	7	2	-		9

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and control over, Infectious and other
Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) - 1963.

TABLE X.

<u>Name of Disease.</u>	<u>Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	1 (0)	0 (0)
Whooping Cough	12 (0)	0 (0)
Acute Pneumonia	0 (1)	7 (6)
Measles	71 (15)	0 (0)
Dysentery	0 (6)	0 (0)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0 (0)	0 (0)
Erysipelas	0 (0)	0 (0)
Food Poisoning	0 (0)	0 (0)
Acute Poliomyelitis	0 (0)	0 (0)
Meningococcal Infection	1 (0)	1 (0)
Puerperal Pyrexia	0 (0)	0 (0)
TOTAL :	<u>85 (22)</u>	<u>8 (6)</u>

(The figures in brackets are those for 1962)

From Table X it will be seen that there was a rise in the prevalence of infectious diseases. The measles occurred during the first half of the year.

There were 7 deaths from pneumonia compared with 6 in 1962, 11 in 1961, 2 in 1960 and 8 in 1959.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis notified.

There were no cases of Dysentery, compared with 6 in the previous year.

Analysis of Notifiable (Infectious) Diseases.

TABLE XI

Disease.	Number of cases and ages.									TOTAL.
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over	
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	1	3	1	5	1	1	-	-	-	12
Measles	4	9	7	15	21	24	1	-	-	71
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
	Under 5		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over.	
Pneumonia	-		-		-		-		-	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	-		-		-		-		-	0
TOTAL :										85

TABLE XII - TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases Notified in 1963.

AGE GROUPS.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-
5-14 "	-	-	-	-
15-24 "	-	-	-	-
25-44 "	1	1	-	-
45-64 "	-	-	-	-
65 years and over.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :	1	1	0	0

There were no deaths from pulmonary Tuberculosis compared with 1 in 1962, 2 in 1961 and 2 in 1960. There were no deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis.

It will be seen from the above Table that there were only 2 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis compared with 5 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 2 non-pulmonary cases in 1962. The continued number of cases notified does not necessarily mean that the incidence of tuberculosis is increasing, but it implies that fewer cases remain undetected (The numbers in 1959 were 9 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 non-pulmonary and in 1960 - 6 pulmonary and in 1961 - 7 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary.

Satisfactory housing has a considerable effect upon the recovery of cases of tuberculosis and, where necessary, "points" are given on medical grounds of cases of tuberculosis who are applicants for a Council house. I continue to be extremely grateful to the Council for their continued sympathetic consideration of these cases and to your Housing Manager for his close co-operation with the Health Department.

Mass Radiography - 1963 Programme.

The Unit visited factories in the district during the year. The semi-static Unit continued to visit Holywell, Mold, Rhyl and Shotton one day every three weeks. At Holywell 901 attended, at Mold 888, at Rhyl 1, 617 and at Shotton 704. Factory workers examined totalled 1,586 in the County.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

No cases were dealt with under these Acts during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

This valuable measure against Tuberculosis continued to be administered to children (at secondary schools) between 12 and 14 years. At Holywell Grammar School 104 were tested and 38 vaccinated. At the Blessed Richard Gwyn Secondary School, 82 were tested and 45 vaccinated. At Flint Secondary Modern School 108 were tested and 48 vaccinated. At Hawarden Grammar School 148 were tested and 89 vaccinated.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

This measure, introduced in 1956, continued on a large scale. Many sessions were held, and were well attended. By the end of the year 58,359 persons in the County had been vaccinated. Thus over 71 per cent of children under 15 years in the County have been protected, and 60 per cent of persons between 15 and 40 years of age. The response at Flint was excellent. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis in Flint.

The Sabin (oral) vaccine was introduced in February 1962. By the end of 1963 3,576 persons (mainly infants and children under 15 years of age) had had the oral vaccine. It was well received by the public.

